103rd Anniversary of the Elongate

TEC NEWS

C-58324

Volume 31, No. 2 | OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ELONGATED COLLECTORS | Spring 1996

From the President's Desk

As we continue in this new year, I hope all of our members will try to get as many new members to make up for any who have dropped out. So, let's Go!

Now that I'm a resident of Florida, I'm going to do my best for our hobby.

On my way down from the New Jersey Turnpike and Route 95 I found that every rest stop has an elongating machine. These are hand operated with four different scenes on a die. To get an elongate, you put in a penny and two quarters and turn the handle yourself.

By the time I got to Lakeland, Florida, I ran out of change. I tried to find out who made these machines and who put them out. Everyone I asked did not know or didn't want to tell me. (Editor's note: "The Penny Men" from Pennsylvania, has machines of similar nature.)

While out in California, I found out that at Disneyland there are 46 rolling machines for rolling penny elongates and 2 machines for nickels.

Make plans now to attend the ANA Convention in Denver this summer. A recent article about our hobby in *Coin World*, magazine should generate lots of interest so we could use help at the booth fielding questions. It would be nice to have lot's of folks attend our annual meeting and enjoy the beautiful Denver area.

"Gus"

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January-March, 1996
VOLUME 31, NUMBER 1

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Classified Advertising in TEC News is FREE to TEC Members. . . Please send YOUR ad to the Editor.

ADVERTISING RATES

As a SPECIAL incentive to our current and future advertisers, the editor will accept ads which are not camera ready for publication in this newsletter. I will typeset and publish your ad at the following rates:

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Send your ad copy and check to the TEC Editor. *Please make your check payable to T.E.C.*

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

All advertising and articles for the SUMMER '96 (Jul-Sep) issue of *TEC News* are due to the Editor **no later than** July 5, 1996.

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION: *TEC NEWS* is Published quarterly for $10.00 per year for adult members *($12.50 Foreign)*, $5.00 per year for junior members by The Elongated Collectors. *TEC NEWS* is the official publication of The Elongated Collectors.

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Hearsay from Howard

By Howard Sharkey, TEC Secretary

Membership renewals have been coming in at a steady rate. If you have not paid dues for 1996 yet, please get your check in the mail. It would be a good idea to start your 1996 convention order at the same time. Remember, it is not necessary to send payment along with your order, just let me know about the type of badges and coin sets that you want to reserve and I'll let you know the amount of your order when I receive the finished items- thanks!

One of our members wrote and asked the other day, "How many rollers do we have in TEC?" I told them the truth; I don't know. Soooo... I'm asking you rollers out there to write a couple of lines and tell me about your rolling activities.

I don't want to know any of the financial details, only your company name and address, your name, the number of machines that you use, (if you want to tell me) and the places that you set up your machines, e.g. county or state fairs, carnivals, flea markets, tourist attractions etc. If this works out all right I'll make a list of the rollers and make it available to those interested like me.

If you have any questions or comments to make about rolling coins, feel free to express yourself. I may not understand it, but I'll listen, and, if you wish, I'll make a page out of these comments. Perhaps we can get some answers for you, too. I'd like to get replies before the ANA convention in Denver at the end of July. Let's set June 25, as a deadline, OK? Happy collecting to all! 1766

Roller/Dealer Directory

By: Anita Zell, TEC # 1846

Amongst our Penny Pen Pals, several have asked if there is a list of rollers or dealers available. It would be such a help to all of us and should increase business for those who enter a listing. Some industrious member with a computer could make up a booklet and the club could charge enough to cover costs and maybe a small small profit for the treasury. I, currently, know of only a few rollers and a few dealers who are not rollers. Each entry could be a short paragraph telling what the individual or firm offers and how to contact them.

A couple of years ago, I purchased some old *TEC NEWS* issues from A. A. Rosato and reading through them, I found requests for a directory as far back as 1972. **Somebody** must have the interest, time, talent and computer to put this together. I have time, but no computer. If someone decides to attempt this for TEC, I will be happy to help. I could receive information from interested roller/dealers who wish to be included; alphabetize them and type up their entries and send them off to whomever will compile and print the booklet.

Come on somebody, volunteer!

Elongated Collectors Lose Beloved Friend

By Ray Dillard,

Frank Brazzell recently lost his fight with cancer. He suffered in various degrees from the dreaded disease for several years. He fought a good fight but finally succumbed on April 14, 1996 after an extended hospital stay.

Frank has been a stalwart in the promotion of modern elongated coins since 1980. Since that time he has built and sold numerous manual and electric elongating machines, engraved over 5000 dies, rolled several million coins and freely offered help and advice to rollers and collectors.

He served as Editor of the *TEC News,* and, later, as president of TEC. He left a large legacy and will be sorely missed by all in our hobby.

The Hiding Numbers Are Back!

If you're an eagle eye, you noticed something missing from the Winter 1996 issue of *TEC NEWS.* Our little game of find the lurking membership number. For you newcomers, here's the rules: Look carefully for your number somewhere in this issue. If you find it, write to TEC Secretary, Howard Sharkey, and let him know you saw it. He 'll send you a little prize for your efforts. Happy hunting!

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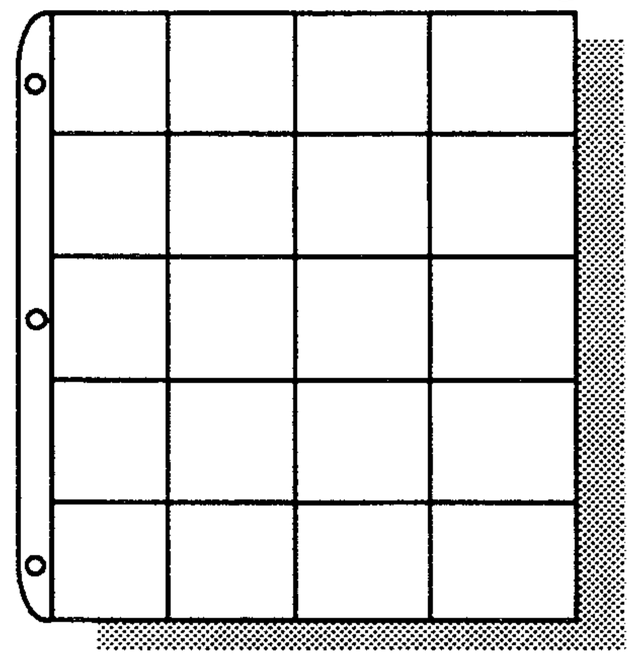

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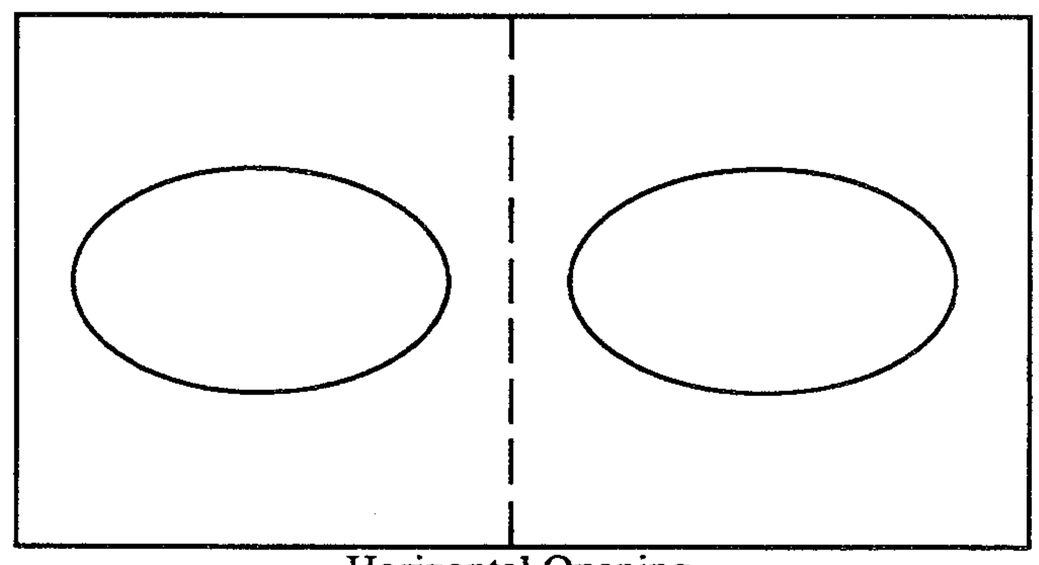

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Stretched Sense

From the Editor

Spring is a great time of rebirth, anticipation and growth. TEC is no exception. Spurred on by a very nice article in the April 8th, issue of Coin World magazine -in which Angelo Rosato got quite a bit of ink- inquiries have poured into my mail box. I forward them on to TEC Secretary, Howard Sharkey. He assures me that some are then added to our membership. Welcome all newcomers! I have been a member for only 18 months and look at me. I'm already editing *TEC NEWS*. Please jump in with both feet. Write an article describing your interest in elongated coins. You might even call Howard and ask how you can help to promote TEC.

Now that I have one issue under my belt, it's time to start a little controversy. Many of the articles for this newsletter refer to the objects we collect. The curious thing is that there are two names given to "squished coins": elongates and elongateds. If you review your older *TEC NEWS* copies you'll see what I mean. Since I'm new to the hobby, I have a difficult time knowing which version is preferred. Let me know your preference and your reasoning. I would like to compile the input into an article.

I have an idea- TEC business cards. Wouldn't it be great to hover around an elongate(d) vending machine at a local tourist attraction passing out TEC information to interested souvenir collectors? If you like the idea, e-mail (wsons@aol.com) or write me with suggestions on what should be on the card.

Another topic which interests me is die canceling. This is the process used to render a rolling die in operable. There are many older dies still extant (usable). Should these be canceled to protect those who have collected coins rolled from these dies? Is an extant die historically more valuable than one altered years later at the hands of someone other than the original owner?

A die is canceled by making an image across its face. It can be an "x" or any other marking. Should coins be circulated which bear the cancellation mark so collectors might determine the status of the die?

I don't have answers for these questions.

Finally, by now you have heard or read the news about Frank Brazzell. He had a profound impact on elongated coins as a hobby and industry. Many people were touched by Frank's life.

Our next issue will be circulated at the ANA Convention in Denver. It would be a nice tribute to include much of Frank's legacy in it. Those new to elongated coins would enjoy some of our history represented in an article about Frank. If you had any dealings with him of any consequence, please send off a note and I will edit all.

Since the ANA Convention is in early August, our deadline for the next issue is July 5,1996. I know this is short notice. Hopefully, the need to act quickly will help us procrastinators. If you have any ideas for submission, DO IT NOW!

Corey Wylde, TEC Editor

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A message from the author

As the author of the *"Encyclopedia Of The Modern Elongated,"* I have decided to give the TEC membership the opportunity to now own this mammoth 1,760 page book FREE because it is especially important for me to know that I have spent 22 years not in vain, but for the purpose it was intended. I wrote this in-depth volume because the hobbyist needed the information, and I wanted to provide it.

At first glance, the wonderful news announced in this newsletter (on another page) may seem too good to be true. But news of this remarkable offer comes from one of true sincerity. I have worked arduously to produce this book, and it has been a dream of mine that a copy be shared to all those whose interests have been devoted in the hobby of collecting elongated coins. I can never be compensated for the innumerable hours, days weeks, years, and costs put into the project. Had I not gathered and recorded all of the data and pertinent information encompassing elongateds, all would have been lost to obscurity. The compensation I now seek is for you to grab onto this moment in time. Yes. . , to grasp at this unreserved occasion for you to possess this book. My recompense is knowing that you will have profited from that which I have provided and will be a significant benefit to the hobby.

Because I am extremely desirous for you to have a copy of the 'encyclopedia,' I have worked very hard to come up with a plan. I have scraped the bottom of the barrel to gather up a "package" to encourage you in *"Let's Make A Deal."* For you.., the expenditure will be negligible.., yet the benefits will be beyond any words !! I think too you'll be surprised and really like the *FREE* bonus gifts provided in the 'deal' valued at $50. Thus.., now it's your turn to provide yourself with this opportunity, which may never be repeated.

I can not justify here the entire proposed offer to you because you will have to understand first and most importantly why I have made the decision of giving the "Classic" book FREE to TEC members. There is no way on this single page to lay out the specifics that will provide for you the reasons I have carefully concluded in my mind so that you'll be the recipient of something that will be most beneficial to you!! I also cannot stress enough why I have focused on this plan to get a copy of the book into your hands..., although that's my goal. My motive is sincere and you can be assured there is absolutely *'no catch"* in the presentation being offered.

For many weeks I have worked rigorously to prepared a special "package kit" that will disclose the details as to how you can obtain and now be able to own the 'encyclopedia' at no cost. For the many years I have spent with the hobby in mind..., I am desperate for you to have my book. For further inducement, I have added other bonus gifts. A small booklet will also be sent to you with important information. All you have to do is send $1 in stamps or cash. You'll also get two *free newly made elongateds!* Please send $1.00 to ANGROS PUBLISHERS 70 Grove Street, New Milford, CT 06776-3632

Thanks . . . . . *Angelo A. Rosato*

Montgomery County Coin Club Issue

By: William C. Massey,

TEC # 1857

Recently, I had the good fortune to be asked to share my knowledge of elongated coins with the members of the Montgomery County Coin Club - located in Silver Spring, Maryland. I have never been much of a public speaker, but I just couldn't pass up the opportunity to spread the elongated word.

I began the presentation by passing out some elongates that were benevolently donated by our past-president, Ray Dillard. I gave a brief history of elongated coinage, explained how dies are made, talked some about TEC, showed off some of my more interesting elongates, and then fielded questions. And boy! There were alot of questions. I'm just glad I had done my homework.

I closed my presentation by mentioning that old copies of the *TEC NEWS* (also donated by Ray), were available for free, and anyone so desiring could come and roll their own elongated cents on my machine. Nobody in attendance balked at my offer. All of the newsletters quickly disappeared, and my machine was steadily cranking out the new MCCC designs- operated by folks of all ages. I gave me great personal pleasure to see so many smiles gathered around my rolling machine.

Since TEC was so helpful in my quest for elongate knowledge, and in donating so many goodies to my presentation, I would like to extend the following offer to all TEC members: Send a SASE along with your paid-up TEC membership number, and I will send you MCCC's newest (only) elongated coin issue. For Jr. members that would like to give their own presentation of elongated coins to their classmates for "show and tell": Send me an outline of your speech, along with the number of people in your class, and I will send you enmough elongated coins for everyone in attendance.

Discover for yourself the joy and fun of sharing the elongated coin experience with others.

My address is: William C. Massey
3406 Cherry Hill Ct.
Beltsville, MD 20705

Barbed Wire Borders for 1996 Events

By Jack Wilcox, TEC # 332

The central themes for these two 1996 elongateds came to light when, first, I located a photo of a "half-track," facing left. And having taken photographs at our POW monument dedication on April 3, 1995, I had my answer for the second design.

Experimenting with letter placement, vertical or horizontal, in large and small scale, resulted in my order to Frank Brazzell for the two 1996 barbed wire border elongateds. I am pleased with the results. 1790

This POW coin is my ninth. Only the 1983 issue has a different border- a perforation simulating a stamp edge used during my years as a postal employee. After 31 years of service, I retired and, thus the barbed wire border was born. There are a total of 15 elongates with this style border. The 1984 version 805 TD coin had a plain wire border.

Over the years since my first issue in 1971, I've had 44 designs made. Frank Brazzell deserves most of the credit.

The border theme would make a good research topic for a newsletter article. Just "dot" it down. Pun intended. The border style enhances the central design. It is interesting to see new borders emerge from time to time.

German Elongates

By: Matt Birchard, TEC #1848

Last year, I had the privilege of traveling to Germany over the Christmas and New Year's holidays. I stayed in Hanover. This was my first trip to Europe and I was very excited to see the sights. In addition to all of the wonderful German Christmas markets and tourist stuff, I was looking for elongates. A friend that had traveled to Germany previously sent an elongated coin from southern Germany. I knew that somewhere I would encounter a rolling machine.

We traveled to Berlin by train. The second day there I encountered an elongate vending machine. We spent the morning at the Berlin Zoo and Aquarium. I visited the gift shop but for some reason it was closed. I may have found more elongates there.

When Berlin was a divided city, both East and West, had a major center. After seeing the Zoo, we headed for the center of East Berlin. The first thing that we saw was its television tower. It is the second tallest building in Europe at 1,198 feet tall. It has a rotating cafe at 679 feet. The whole thing sort of resembles a tooth pick with an olive on it.

We planned to go up into the tower to get a good view of Berlin. But in seemingly East German style, it was closed for renovation. However, six elongating machines stood at its base. You could not miss them. There were two kiosks with three machines each and the word "Souvenir" emblazoned on the top. Each machine had only one die.

The instructions were in both German and English, a common thing there. It cost 1 mark plus the coin to be rolled. (At that time, 1 mark = $0.75.) The machines were very easy to operate. All I did was place a 1 mark coin in one slot then either a 2 pfennig or 5 pfennig coin in the other slot. The coin was automatically rolled. A small round window allowed us to watch the process. The rest of the machine was stainless steel.

I wanted one of each design on a 2 and 5 pfennig coin. The 2 pfennig is made of copper and the size of a U.S. penny. The 5 pfennig is the same size, but made of brass. We got change from a store and I set to work rolling coins. The first one worked fine, but the second was out of order. Another had a coin firmly jammed in the slot. A third machine kept dropping my coin into the coin return slot! Of the six designs, I got only three. 1970J

The first design I got is vertical depicting the tower. It has "Berlin" written on the left side. "FERNSEH UND UKW-TURM" is written on the right side. The second coin had a standard dot border. (As did all the coins.) It is a vertical which depicts the Brandenburg Gate. "BERLIN" is written at the bottom, arched downward to fit the curve of the coin. Arched at the top is "BRANDENBURGER TOR".

The last coin that I purchased is a horizontal design showing the Reichstag. "BERLIN" is written at the bottom and "REICHSTAG" is at the top. The designs of all coins are raised to a uniform level being rather shallow engravings. None of the coins has a start notch, but on the reverse side is a slight heel at one end. This, I assume is how the coin is grabbed in the die. It makes some of the coins appear egg-shaped instead of uniformly elliptical. The engravings, however, are symmetrical ellipses.

I had my picture taken with the machines. I even posed for a shot of me putting a coin in the slot. I was very cold out and getting quite late, so I said good-bye to the machines. I was happy that I had 3 different designs, but was a little angry, frustrated and discouraged that I did not have the 3 others. During the rest of my stay in Germany I did not see any more elongate machines.

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It's Here!! A Price List covering only those coins listed in "Yesterday's Elongateds." The varieties and volumes are mind-boggling. It's bigger and better than my last list. It includes coins from three major collections, plus miscellaneous purchases made over the last three years. It includes something for everyone ranging from common coins to seldom offered rarities. Order form Ray Dillard, P.O. Box 161, Fenton, MI 48430

20 DIFFERENT OLD STEAM LOCOMOTIVES on cents in 2x2's and plastic pages $10 on nickels $15, 20 dinosaurs on cents in 2x2's and plastic pages $10 on nickels $15, 500 roller errors $15, 1,000 $25. Rocky Rockholt, 2678 Sumac Ridge, White Bear Lake, MN 55110-5646 - 612-777-9000

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FOR SALE

FREE! I still have some of my Anaheim ANA "Thanks for your Support" elongates left. If you want one, send either a 32 cent stamp or SASE to : John Wilson, P.O. Box 27185, Milwaukee, WI 53227

NEW COIN ELONGATING MACHINES $2,295 plus shipping. Includes video tape instruction. Rocky Rockholt, 2678 Sumac Ridge, White Bear Lake, MN 55110-5646 - 612-777-9000

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COIN CLUB'S first elongated issue! Rolled on cents for only 50 cents each, or 3 for $1 plus SASE. Denominational sets (cent through quarter) only $4, postpaid. All coins sealed in mylar 2 x 2's. Note: dime & quarter available to those on record for previously ordering cent and nickel - $2.50 ppd. Thanks! William C. Massey, 3406 Cherryhill Ct., Beltsville, MD 20705.

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Word Fun by Pearl Buoker TEC #1824

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L	H	T	F	Y	R

"One hundred third anniversary of the elongate" How many words-2 letters or more can you make from the block above? When making a word, use each letter only once and use only adjacent letters. High score so far is 160 words. Can you top it?

THE ELONGATED COLLECTORS (TEC)

Dues for one calendar year membership in **The Elongated Collectors** club are $10.00 General; $5.00 for a second membership and $5.00 for Youth (under 18 years). Foreign Membership (Except U.S. Possessions) $12.50 per year. Benefits of TEC Membership include:

★ You receive 4 issues of the *TEC News*. Each issue ranges from 14 to 20 pages featuring informative articles, notices of new issues and more! Plus each issue contains a free elongated coin donated by a member or club.
★ You get to place a free classified ad in each issue of the *TEC News*.
★ You will receive an annual Membership Coin and a life long TEC membership number.
★ If you write an article for the *TEC News*, you'll be awarded a special *TEC News* Award Coin for each article you write. In 1993 only 33 of these collectors items were awarded.
★ You can attend the annual meeting held in conjunction with the ANA Convention.
★ You also get the opportunity to purchase the limited edition TEC-ANA Convention Badge, rolled on a U.S. clad or enameled silver quarter.
★ **You get all of this and Much, Much MORE!!!!!**

There are many advantages in being a member of TEC. Won't you join the nice people that collect elongated coins?

Please copy or cut out the application form provided below and submit it to the TEC Secretary along with your remittance.

★ **CURRENT TEC MEMBERS...** This application will serve as your DUES NOTICE for 1996. Please copy or clip and return to the TEC Secretary along with your remittance. Please remember to include a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope for the return of your 1996 Membership Card and Membership Coin. **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!** ★

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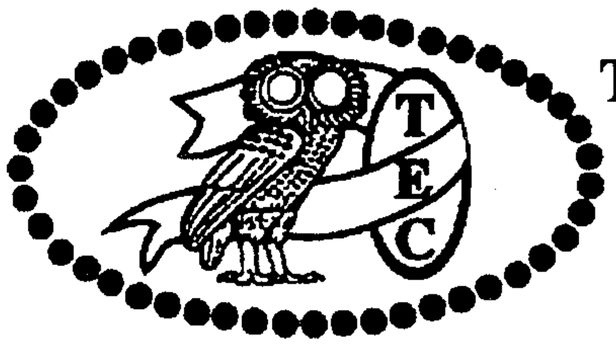

THE ELONGATED COLLECTORS (TEC)

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(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

☐ **New** ☐ **Renewal (TEC # _____)**

Complete and Return to:
Howard C. Sharkey
TEC Secretary
203 S. Gladiolus
Momence, IL 60954-1709

When completed, please forward this application to the Secretary with your check or money order made out to "TEC." Dues are $10.00 ($12.50 Foreign) for General Membership, $5.00 for second membership at the same address and $5.00 for youth (under 18 years) membership. Dues are due January 1st for calendar year.

NAME _____ Birth Date (Jr. Members Only) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

YEARS COLLECTING ELONGATEDS _____ SPECIALTY _____

Birthdate (Junior Members) _____

I agree that upon admittance to membership, I will abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of TEC and its Code of Ethics. ☐ **Check this box if you do not want your address published in *TEC News*.**

DATE _____ SIGNED _____

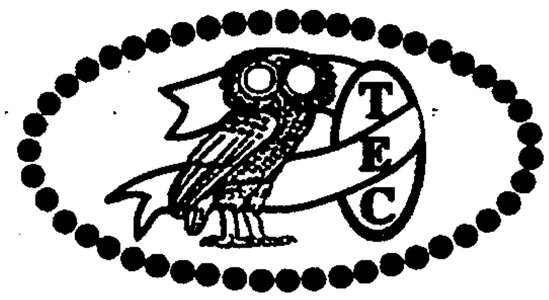
TYPE of MEMBERSHIP: GENERAL _____ SECOND _____ YOUTH _____

FOR CLUB USE ONLY:
Proposed by _____ **TEC Number** _____
Admitted to Membership (DATE) _____ **TEC Number** _____

Hope to see you at the

TEC Annual Meeting

at this year's ANA Convention held in Denver's Colorado Convention Center August 14-18, 1996



Corey Wylde
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To:

First Class!